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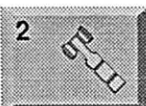
Volume 29, Issue 1



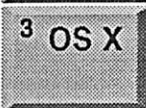
mini'app'les newsletter

the minnesota apple computer users' group, inc.

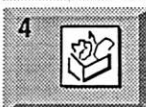
J A N U A R Y 2 0 0 6						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2 	3 OS X 7:00	4 6:30	5	6	7
8	9 7:00	10 	11 7:00	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19 	20	21
22	23 Q&A 7:00	24 Mac Main 7:00	25	26 	27	28
29	30	31				



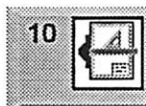
Board of Directors
mini'app'les members welcome
New Brighton Family Center
400 10th St..N.W. New Brighton
Tom Gates 612-789-1713



OS X SIG
The Foundation
219 Second Street North Suite 200
Minneapolis, MN 55403
Craig Arko



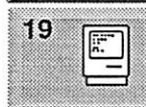
AppleWorks SIG
Augsburg Library 6:30 PM
7100 Nicollet Ave S, Richfield
John Hunkins, Sr. 651-457-8949
hunkins@mac.com.



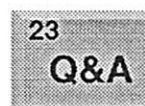
VectorWorks SIG
Location to be determined
Charles Radloff 952 941 1667



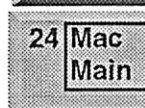
Microsoft Word SIG
Eagles lodge
9152 Old Cedar Ave. Bloomington
Tom Ostertag, D 612-951-5520 E
651-488-9979



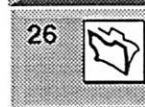
Macintosh Consultants SIG
Embers 7:00 AM
7525 Wayzata Blvd
St. Louis Park
Bob Demeules, 763-559-1124



Macintosh Q & A SIG
Questions & Answers
Merriam Park Library
1831 Marshall Avenue St. Paul
Les Anderson 651-735-3953



Mac Main SIG
Southdale Library
7001 York Avenue South,
Edina, MN 55435
Craig R. Arko



FileMaker Pro SIG
Megaclean
769 Kasota Ave. S.E.
Minneapolis MN 55414
Steve Wilmes 651-458-1513

For the latest information please visit <http://www.miniapples.org>



mini'app'les

The Minnesota Apple Computer Users' Group, Inc.
P.O. Box 796, Hopkins, MN 55343

Board of Directors:

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SIG Director	Craig Arko 612-379-0174
Director at Large	Les Anderson 651-735-3953 anderslc@usfamily.net
Membership	Erik Knopp
Apple II	Owen Aaland

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Questions – Please direct questions to an appropriate board member. Users with technical questions should refer to the Members Helping Members section.

Dealers – mini'app'les does not endorse specific dealers. The club promotes distribution of information which may help members identify best buys and service. The club itself does not participate in bulk purchases of media, software, hardware and publications. Members may organize such activities on behalf of other members.

Advertisers – For information, see Newsletter Ad Rates box within this issue.

Newsletter Contributions – Please send contributions directly to our Post Office, Box 796, Hopkins, MN 55343, or tostertag@usfamily.net

Deadline for material for the next newsletter is the 1st of the month. An article will be printed when space permits and, if in the opinion of the Newsletter Editor or Manager, it constitutes material suitable for publication.

Editor/Publisher: Tom Ostertag 651-488-9979

Newsletter Layout: John Pruski 952-938-2818, Bert Persson 612-861-9578

mini'app'les BBS – Internet only access

mini'app'les WWW site: <http://www.miniapples.org>

mini'app'les e-mail: miniapples@mac.com



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CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Moving? Going to be away from home and leaving a forwarding address with the Post Office? Please send us a Change of Address when you are informing others. By using a moment of your time and a few cents to drop us a card, you save the club some money and you get your newsletter delivered promptly to your new address. If you don't inform us, the Post Office puts your newsletter in the trash (they don't forward third class mail) and charges the club for informing us of your new address. Change of Address should be sent to the club's mailing address: mini'app'les, Attn: Membership Director, Box 796, Hopkins, MN 55343.

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February 2006 Preview

Here is the tentative calendar of our Special Interest Group (SIG) meetings for February 2006. Please pencil these events on your calendar. As always, when doubtful of a SIG date, time, or location, confirm with one of the following:

- At www.miniapples.org
- The cognizant SIG Leader

Wednesday	February	1	AppleWorks SIG
Monday	February	6	Board of Directors meeting
Tuesday	February	7	OS X SIG
Wednesday	February	8	Microsoft Word SIG
Saturday	February	11	Annual Meeting
Tuesday	February	14	VectorWorks SIG
Tuesday	February		Mac Main SIG
Thursday	February	16	Macintosh Consultants
Monday	February	27	Mac Q & A SIG

Members Helping Members

Need Help? Have a question the manual doesn't answer? Members Helping Members is a group of volunteers who have generously agreed to help. They are just a phone (or an e-mail) away. Please call only during the appropriate times, if you are a member, and own the software in question.

Apple II / IIGS Software & Hardware	1, 5, 7	1. Les Anderson	651-735-3953	DEW
AppleWorks / ClarisWorks-Draw	6, 7, 8	2. Mike Carlson	218-387-2257	D
Classic Macs		3. Eric Jacobson	651-645-6264	D
Cross-Platform File Transfer	5	4. Nick Ludwig	612-593-7410	DEW
FileMaker Pro		5. Tom Ostertag	651-488-9979	EW
FirstClass		6. Owen Strand	763-427-2868	D
iMacs	12,	7. Bruce Thompson	763-546-1088	EW
iPhoto / iTunes / iMovie		8. Pam Lienke	651-457-6026	EW
Mac OS Classic	7, 12	9. Tom Lufkin	651-698-6523	EW
Mac OS X		10. Gary Eckhardt	952-944-5446	EW
MacWrite Pro	11	11. R. J. Erhardt	651-730-9004	DEW
Microsoft Excel	2, 5, 13,	12. Richard Becker	612-870-0659	EW
Microsoft Word	5,	13. Ardie Predweshny	612 978-9774	DEW
MYOB	13	14. Charles Radloff	952-941-1667	D
Networks		D: Days, generally 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.		
New Users	1, 9, 12	E: Evenings, generally 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.		
PhotoShop	3, 10	W: Weekends, generally 1 p.m. to 9 p.m.		
PowerBooks / iBooks	12,			
Power Macs				
Quicken	2, 13			
QuickBooks and QuickBooks Pro	13			
WordPerfect	4			
VectorWorks	14			

Please call at reasonable hours, and ask if it is a convenient time for them. By the way, many of these volunteers can also be contacted on our BBS. We appreciate your cooperation.

If you would like to be a Members Helping Member volunteer, please send an e-mail message to John Pruski on our BBS, or call him at 952-938-2818, with your name, telephone number, contact hours, and the software or hardware areas you are willing to help others.

Newsletter Ad Rates

1/12 page	2.25" Width x 2.5" Height	\$5
1/6 page	2.5" Width x 5" Height	\$10
1/3 page	2.5" Width x 10" Height Vert or 5.5 H.	\$20
1/2 page	7.5" Width x 5" Height (save 5%)	\$30
2/3 page	5" Width x 10" Height (save 7%)	\$40
Full page	7-1/2" Width x 10" Height (save 15%)	\$60
Outside back cover	7-1/2" Width x 7-1/2" Height	\$50
Inside back cover	7-1/2" Width x 10" Height	\$60

All ads must be prepaid and submitted on electronic media. Ads of \$20 and under must run for a minimum of three months.

mini'app'les will accept all ads for publication that do not affect our nonprofit status, or the postal regulations dealing with our nonprofit mailing rates. Examples of ads that will be rejected are; but not limited to, ads that:

1. endorse a political candidate or cause
2. attack a person or cause
3. are in "bad taste" (x rated or similar)
4. expound or demean a religion or practice.

Ads should be for a product or service. Because of our nonprofit mailing rates we must limit ads that are not related to computers.

Mail inquiries to: PO Box 796, Hopkins, MN, 55343
Phone inquiries to: John Pruski, 952-938-2818

Miniapples Directors Meeting November 7, 2005

Submitted by Les Anderson. Acting Secretary.

Meeting called to order at 7:10 pm by Tom Gates. BOD members present: C. Arko, J. Pruski, B. Persson, T. Gates, L. Anderson.

Absent: D. Walz, G. Buchner, J. Nye. Members present, B. Bantz, E. Knopp.

The minutes were distributed by acting secretary L. Anderson. J. Pruski moved they be approved, seconded by B. Persson. Motion passed

No treasurers report, but Don told Tom that all current bills were paid.

Officers Reports:

President: T. Gates will give his report as part of the business meeting.

VP Report: Bert reported on the

Diary of a Mac User:

Submitted by Tom Ostertag

May I wish all of you a Happy and Prosperous New Year. Several things have transpired this last year in my life. The first is I am officially a member of the unemployed and therefore supposedly have an infinite amount of time on my hands to do all sorts of things I've never done before or to finish up all those projects that I've had sitting on the shelf for years. I've always intended to write editorials and henceforth this article for inclusion in the club newsletter.

The second was the opportunity I had this last year to take several Photoshop classes (at company expense before I retired) and hone my skills at digital photography. That allowed me to attack the large collection of family photos that have been sitting in shoeboxes for years, scan them and restore them for use by my wife, Fran, to include in her numerous scrapbooks.

Thirdly, I had the pleasure of taking my 84 year old mother to Ireland to visit her roots. Because of this, I am investigating my maternal ancestry and had to invest in a genealogy program, Reunion. I have not had the time to attack the program any fur-

Auction, very few donations. We need more. Also, the Annual meeting is coming up.

Publications: John said everything is OK, but more articles are needed.

SIG Director: Main SIG going well. Topic for this month is iMovie.

Past President: Nothing to report.

Membership: Nothing to report.

Unfinished Business:

Tom has been in contact with the IRS concerning our non-profit status. Forms will be sent for us to fill out to be reinstated. The order for the new projector was cancelled. Greg is contacting the Foundation to see what they can do for us. State Fair booth still pending.

The audit will be done by Harry Lienke.

New Business:

The PO Box rental is due, \$126/year. The PO was late in sending the statement. Both Tom Gates and Bruce Thompson contacted the Postmaster, he said a late payment would be OK.

Motion to adjourn was made by Craig Arko, seconded by Bert Persson. Meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Next meeting Dec. 5 at New Brighton Community Center.

ther than to enter my own name and information, but it has the potential to open up new directions in finding relatives for our Ireland visit in 2006.

It is interesting to note that most all of the opportunities vying for my free time are centered around my use of a computer, specifically Mac computers. I started using computers when I was in college back in the early '60s. Then it was mainframes with IBM punch cards and woe to anyone that dropped a box of sorted punch cards on the way to the computer lab. In the '70s we connected to the mainframes with teletype terminals and 110 baud modems. We loaded programs into the computer from paper tapes and received printouts on thermal paper. I purchased my first Apple //e in 1983 and used that and an Apple IIGS for home until 1993 when I purchased a Centris 610. At work we upgraded from Apples to Macs, which we used until 1998 when our company dictated that there be but one platform in its hallowed halls. That unfortunately was Dell PCs. The best part of that change was I was allowed to purchase my Mac 6100/66 with extra memory, gigabyte hard drives, an accelerator board and a 17" Trinitron Monitor for a \$100.00, a handsome piece of hardware in its day. That sys-

tem was replaced by a used G3 tower in '02 and connected to a G4 dual processor last December. I am not running the latest, greatest hardware, but it is allowing me to push on with tools to be productive in ways that I wasn't able to before.

I'm sure each member of mini'app'les has a story to tell and other members would be amazed at how Macs are being used to increase their productivity. If you have a few minutes, why not write the story of your unique application for the newsletter. If you have some interesting insights or topics you'd like me to discuss, send me a note on the club bulletin board or send me a note at tostertag@usfamily.net.

Happy computing in 2006

Seiko Smart Label Printer 430

Submitted by Sandy Foderick

It's always great to run into an old friend, and seeing Seiko exhibiting at Macworld Boston was no exception. In the 1990s, Seiko decided that they would not develop label maker drivers for System 8 or later, yet there they were on the show floor in 2005 with elegant Smart Label Printers running OSX. I was glad to get the opportunity to try their new Smart Label Printer 430. The tech specifications sounded good – the SLP 430 is a black and white 203 dpi thermal printer so there would be no ribbons or cartridges to replace; the specs said that it could print at three seconds per label and would work with 10.2 and up, as well as with various iterations of the WinTel platform.

My first experience was great: everything I needed was in the box and the unit felt solid and well made. Not only did the printer come with a power supply, software, and cables for both USB and RS232C serial connections, it even came with a nice starter set of labels. The Quick Start guide was easy to follow. The software was easy to install and connectivity was a breeze, so that I was able to make it work without reading the manual. Better yet, I could print a single address via the included software, and the unit did not waste labels, a real treat compared to printing labels on an ink jet printer.

So, by now you are asking yourself,

“What's not to like? It sounds like a great printer.” Unfortunately, the hardware is solid but the software offered an uneven experience. Some parts of the process were obvious: selecting an 8mm Spine yielded the correct configuration for labeling an 8mm tape. Other parts were problematic. Once I had selected a template and had things ready to go, I decided to import a list of file labels. To do this, I needed to read the on-disk manual, where I found that importing was considered an advanced option and could be found under the Advanced button – not exactly intuitive. To place text neatly on the template I found myself toggling back and forth between Layout and Advanced screens, again, not too difficult but a bit klunky. The good news was that the text to be imported could be clearly seen via the software screen prior to printing, saving me from the expense of misprinted labels. I could print using any font and size within my system, limited only by the size of the labels I had selected.

A little more investigation showed that I could print images, barcodes, consecutive serial numbers, a series of addresses from Entourage or my address book, imported text or even multiple return address labels with a postal barcode for easy routing. Once installed in my word processor or database, I could print directly from within the application. While not blazingly fast, the Smart Label Printer averaged about fifteen return labels in

a minute and close to twenty file labels in the same amount of time, far better than using an inkjet with an Avery sheet. Better yet, I could save the template I'd made, so that I could use it again whenever I needed a single label or a roll.

After two weeks of use I sent the unit back, deciding that the hardware was great but the software was only okay. Still, for anyone willing to do a little poking around, the Seiko Smart Label Printer provides a wealth of labeling possibilities, and is well worth considering.

Product – Seiko Smart Label Printer 430
MSRP - \$189.00
Street Price – \$107 to \$208
Manufacturer – Seiko Instruments Inc.
Web – <http://www.siibusinessproducts.com>
U.S. & Canada – (800) 688-0817

Requirements (Macintosh)

Mac OS X 10.2 or higher
Power MacintoshÆ G3/G4/G5 or iMac
Minimum 128MB RAM, 256MB recommended
30MB hard disk space
USB port
CD-ROM or DVD drive for software installation

A note from our Annual Auction

Submitted by Bert Persson

Our annual auction was held Saturday, Dec. 10 at the Washburn Library. This year we didn't have as much stuff as last year since we tried to limit our hardware to computers capable of running OSX with USB ports. In addition we were also looking for USB devices. Computers and hardware were sold at bargain basement prices and we sold everything. However due to relatively high advertising cost we may have to be more selective in the future in order to cover our costs. According to our schedule the viewing and registration began at noon and the bidding started at 1 P.M. As in previous years Lisa Huston (our previous president) came up from Rochester to auction off all the equipment.

Thanks Lisa, you did a great job and we really appreciate it. In fact you did such a good job so we finished selling all the equipment long before the closing of the library.

Because of this we were able to get all the stuff out of the library and paid up before closing. Of course no auction can be held without the contribution of donors so we would like to thank QUE computer and members as well as non members for making this auction a success. Last but not least thanks to Bruce Thompson for keeping track of the bids and making sure all the receipts came out correct.

A big thank you to all who participated from the auction organizers Bert Persson, John Pruski

Que Computer
612-623-9144

mini'app'les members and non-members

Annual meeting February 11

Submitted by John Pruski

Our annual membership meeting will be held at the Southdale Library, Saturday February 11th and will be available from 10:00AM till closing. We will be accepting nominations for officers for the next year. All officer positions are up for election. They are;

President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Marketing Director, Publication Director, and SIG Director. Some officers may seek reelection, but other candidates are welcome. This is your opportunity to have your voice heard, and help support your user group. See the board members listed on page 2.

In addition to nominations to the Board of Directors, we plan on having some guest speakers, and some food and drink. If you know someone who could do a presentation please contact me (952-938-2818). We hope to see you there.

Articles Needed !

Please submit your articles on the BBS under the heading For Newsletter Staff. Thank You



mini'app'les

The Minnesota Apple Computer Users' Group, Inc.
P.O. Box 796, Hopkins, MN 55343-0796

Membership Application, & Renewal Form

Name: _____
 Company (if mailed to): _____
 Address: _____

 City, State, Zip: _____
 Phone # (Home): _____
 Phone # (Work): _____
 Phone # (cel-phone): _____
 Occupation (if Applicable): _____
 Membership ID # (if Renewal): _____
 e-mail: _____

Check if OK to contact you by e-mail.
 Check if this is a change of address notice.
 Check if you are interested in volunteer opportunities.
 Check if you want your name added to Members Helping Members List.
 Check if you want your name withheld from commercial and other non-club mailing lists.
 Check if you were referred by a club member (if so give members name).

New Members & Renewing Members

Specify your level of support:

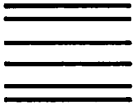
- \$25.00 One Year
- \$45.00 Two Year
- \$60.00 Three Year
- \$15.00 Student One Year* (must be a full-time student at an accredited institution)
- \$100.00 Corporate One Year

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Last Fold - Seal with Tape



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3rd fold

1st fold

2nd fold


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 Software Director
 Other _____

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A one year subscription to our monthly Newsletter

A free account on the mini'app'les BBS (60 minutes/day)

Communicate with other mini'app'les members plus get up to date information on mini'app'les events and meetings. Get assistance from other members.

Eligibility for frequent drawings of free equipment, software, and books.

Just a few of the many items given away free in the past include: Connectix QuickCam, Quickeys, Books from Peachpit Press, MacSoft Games & Software, T-shirts and software including Apple OS 10

Periodic special User Group discount offers on equipment and software.

In the past, Apple, Hayes, Brøderbund, and APC Power Protection (Business Security Products), among others, have offered mini'app'les members significant discounts.

Plus, you're supporting all of mini'app'les' special interest group (SIG) meetings that you can attend each month.

***It's easy to recoup your cost of membership
with the above benefits.***

 **mini'app'les
newsletter**

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